

## ADDRESS LINE OF SECRETARY COOPER'S CABLE DISPATCH TO PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

H o n o l u l u a t t o t h e s e c r e t a r y o f w a r t o t h e p r e s i d e n t o f t h e u n i t e d s t a t e s

THE ABOVE IS A TRANSLATION OF THE WAVY LINES WHICH CARRIED HAWAII'S NEW YEAR GREETINGS TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

## WORLD'S NEWS FLASHED UNDER THE WIDE SEA

### Important Happenings During the Past Twenty-Four Hours Re- ported Over Cable.

#### Boxers to March on Peking---President Castro Abdicates---Important Sugar Discovery.

(Associated Press Cable.)

SHANGHAI, Jan. 3.—Prince Tuan has concentrated 50,000 troops and joined General Tung Fu Sian, the notorious and cruel enemy of all foreigners in China and former commander of the Northern Imperial Army and a Boxer leader, for a march upon Peking with the object of overthrowing the present dynasty.

This rebellion is in the northern provinces and the Court at Peking is said to have taken serious alarm at the uprising.

For months General Tung Fu Sian has led a powerful band of Boxers who have not until now made any serious move towards invading the district around Peking. His troops are said to be well drilled and he is supposed to have supplies and arms and ammunition sufficient to wage a fierce contest against the Imperial troops.

In some quarters it is believed that these leaders have induced about 5,000 Imperial troops who were located in the provinces of Shensi and Mongolia to join them but this latter information lacks confirmation.

It is said that these two leaders have for some time been given protection by the Empress Dowager owing to the fact that they are haters of the "foreign devils" and that now finding their strength sufficient they wish to take Peking and entirely control the situation.

#### CASTRO ABDICATES.

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—The Herald says that censored dispatches from Caracas indicate that President Castro has abdicated or is about to do so.

The insurgents menace the city and the situation is critical according to Associated Press dispatches. A forced loan is feared, which would cause fresh complications.

#### SUGAR DISCOVERY.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 3.—Thomas Wommack, a prominent planter of East Baton Rouge, has discovered a new process of making sugar which promises to revolutionize the industry in Louisiana. Mr. Wommack declines to divulge the secret until a patent is received but says he converts his whole product from ordinary syrup into sugar with only a small percentage of residue in the shape of a black glucose with scarcely a trace of sucrose and as hard as a brick. He brought samples of the residue to the Sugar Exchange for chemical examination as evidence of the success of the discovery. Every pound of sugar made him this season was clear white at first.

#### DE LA MONTANYO'S TROUBLES.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 3.—James De La Montanyo deeded his property to his children when his wife began her suit for divorce. The wife was given a decree and he now wants his property back, but the children refuse. He has brought suit to set aside the deeds. The property is valued at three hundred thousand dollars.

#### USES OF THE CABLE.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 3.—The cable was used for the first time today to intercept an alleged criminal, Chief of Police Wittman wiring the High Sheriff at Honolulu to arrest a Chinese woman on the steamer Peking. It is claimed that she embezzled \$1,000 from countrymen here.

#### MARCONI'S TRIUMPH.

WINNIPEG, Jan. 3.—Signor Marconi is installing his transcontinental system and the first wireless station in the United States will be opened next week with a dispatch from South Wellfleet, Mass., to the King of Italy. The message will be sent with a force of a million volts, the largest voltage ever obtained from an electrical current. The initial test was found to be all right. The apparatus throws a spark as big as a man's fist and a foot long.

GLACE BAY (N. S.), December 22.—To his wireless message transmitted from Canada to King Edward VII. Mr. Marconi has received the following reply, signed by Lord Knollys, the King's private secretary: "I have had the honor of submitting your telegram to the King, and I am commanded to congratulate you sincerely on the successful issue of your endeavors to develop your most important invention. The King has been much interested in your experiments, as he remembered the initial ones were commenced by you on the royal yacht Osborne in 1898."

"KNOLLYS, Private Secretary."

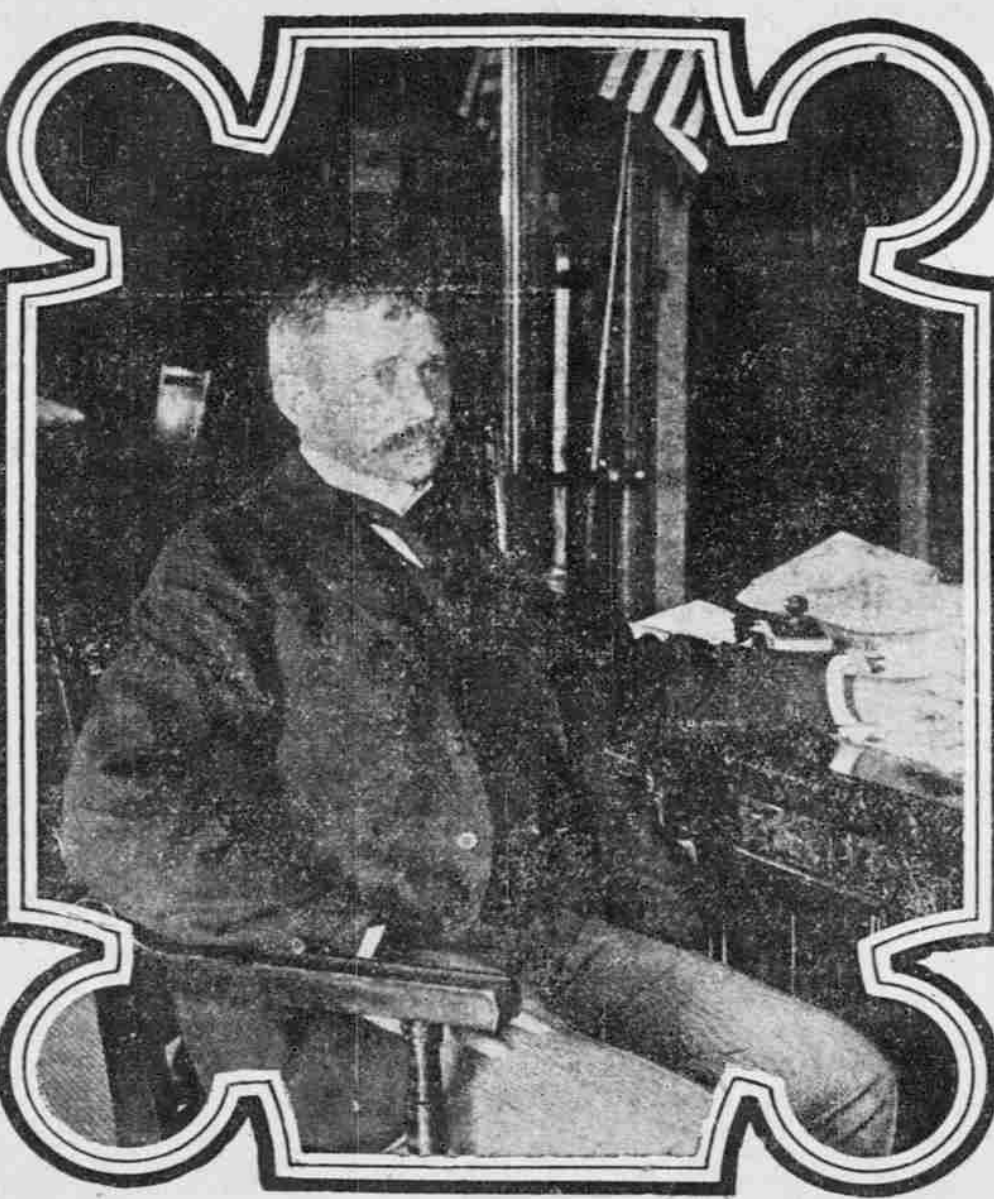
LONDON, Dec. 22.—The second edition of the Times today Continued on page 8.)

## THE SECRETARY OF WAR CONGRATULATES HAWAII

From War Department to Gazette, Honolulu, H. I.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 3.—I congratulate the people of Hawaii on the event which completes their union with the people of the United States. Communication, mutual knowledge and understanding, community of interests, advocacy of the same principles and pursuit of the same ideals, are more potent than acts of Congress to bring about true unity. All these the cable must greatly promote.

ELIHU ROOT, Sec'y. of War.



HON. ELIHU ROOT, Secretary of War, is one of the best known Republicans in the State of New York. He is a descendant of a well known New England family. He graduated from Hamilton College in 1864. Mr. Root began the practice of law in New York in 1867, and rapidly acquired a large practice in connection with noted litigations, including the famous A. T. Stewart will case. Newspaper men especially remember the success with which he appeared for the late Chas. A. Dana, editor of the New York Sun, and successfully resisted the efforts to remove Mr. Dana to the District of Columbia under an indictment for libel. In 1883 Mr. Root was appointed United States district attorney for the southern district of New York and was delegate-at-large to the Constitutional convention of 1894. He is one of the closest confidential advisers of President Roosevelt and one of the strongest men now in public life.

## ROOSEVELT'S GREETINGS TO THE HAWAIIAN PEOPLE

Prince David Kawanakoa has received the following message from the President:

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 3, 1903.

David Kawanakoa, Waikiki.

The President is much pleased to receive through you the cordial greetings of the native Hawaiians, and extends to them his hearty congratulations upon the opening of telegraphic communication with Hawaii.

(Signed) GEORGE B. CORTELYOU, Secretary.  
Col. Parker received a message couched in similar phrase.

## PHILIPPINE TARIFF CUT THREATENS SUGAR INDUSTRY

(Associated Press Cable.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—Henry T. Oxnard called on the President today and urged him to use his influence against the bill reducing the Philippine tariff. He claimed the proposed reduction would work great harm to the sugar industry. It is known that the Havemeyer sugar trust is using every effort against the bill. It is certain, however, that the Philippine bill will be passed and the Cuban treaty ratified.

#### GENERAL FRIEDRICH DEAD.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 3.—News of the death at Juneau, Alaska, of General Robert A. Friedrich, United States attorney for the district of Alaska, was received today.

#### YELLOW FEVER ABOARD.

PORT TOWNSEND, Jan. 3.—British ship Comliebank from Panama reports the death of six of her crew from yellow fever.

## FIRE DESTROYS L. B. KERR'S STORE AT MIDNIGHT

### Unknown Man Entered an Hour Before Fire Was Found and May Be Cremated.

#### One Hundred Thousand Dollars' Loss Sustained by Destruction of Dry Goods Stocks. James F. Morgan Suffers Loss.

Midnight fires last night did damage to the amount of \$100,000 to L. B. Kerr & Co., Ltd., James F. Morgan, and the Robinson estate, by the practical destruction of the building occupied by the first two concerns named in Queen street, with all the contents.

When the fire was under control facts were learned which led the police to believe that a man had lost his life in the burning structure.

Barney Oat, the night watchman in that section of the city, saw a man enter the Kerr store about 20 minutes past 10 o'clock and close the big iron doors after him. Oat passed up Kaahumanu street and went on his rounds until the alarm was sounded, the indicator at the central station showing that it came at 11:15. Mr. Oat reported to Fire Chief Thurston as follows:

"I was on Queen street about 15 or 20 minutes past 10 when I saw a man walk down Queen from Fort streets directly to Kerr's. He unlocked the iron doors, went in and closed the doors behind him. I have often seen business men come to their stores at night, and thought nothing about it. Kerr's is not on my list. I went around and up Kaahumanu street, and while there heard the whistles. I came to Queen and saw the reflection of the flames from Kerr's. I did not see any one come out of Kerr's. Who the man was, I do not know."

The police made every endeavor to find Mr. Kerr last night, but could not locate him up to 1 a. m. His residence is at Waikiki, and the telephone refused to work last night.

The building contained two ground floor rooms, the second story being one apartment. In the stores of Kerr & Co., comprising the Waikiki room and the entire upper floor, was a stock of general dry goods, estimated to be of a value of \$100,000. This is practically lost, as the fire, which seems to have started in the rear of the main room, made its way through the entire length of the store, and then, working up, gutted the second story.

In the store-room of James F. Morgan there was a light stock of goods, comprising principally furniture and some canned groceries, and much of this was destroyed by smoke and water, for the fire was late in getting into the room, and did very little damage there. Mr. Morgan saved his books and his valuables in the desk in the rear office, but no one of the Kerr firm appeared, and not a single thing was saved from that building. The fire had saved headway at the moment it was discovered that it is doubtful if anything could have been saved. The fire was fought with the utmost vigor, and despite the menace of the lumber piles in the rear, there was never real danger of great spreading, for the department handled the blaze with such determination that no loss was incurred, except in the main building, even the warehouses at the rear being saved from damage.

The fire was discovered by the policeman on the Queen and Fort street beat, who saw the reflection from the flames, which were later found to be breaking through the sky-lights over the dressmaking portion of the Kerr establishment, occupying the rear end of the building. He turned in the alarm from box 13, at Hackfeld's corner. The police wagon was the first on the ground, and Deputy Sheriff Chillingworth, followed by McDuffie, Renear, and Pohaku, went through Allen and Robinson's lumber yard, breaking down the tall gates in the rear of J. F. Morgan's rooms. By this time the chemical engine and a hose wagon from the central station arrived, the latter going to this opening with a line of

hose. A ladder was raised and the hose taken to the roof. The water was poured down into this section, which was already a roaring furnace.

The two stories of height of the rear building are taken up by only one open space inside from floor to ceiling, a gallery being the second story. Huge volumes of smoke poured through the skylight openings. Chillingworth and others assisted the firemen to drag a second line of hose around to the rear, where effective play was had on the dressmaking department, and also into the main store. By the time the second hose was in position, the entire store was a mass of flames. With axes and crowbars the police broke down a barrier of iron bars, giving the firemen a fine opportunity to work on the flames from the roof, effectually checking its progress towards the lumber piles. Foreman Deering, of Hose Company No. 2, had charge of the operations in the rear, and kept his men working in closer toward the seat of the fire, Chief Thurston directing all the operations.

The flames finally broke through the frail wooden partition between Kerr's and Morgan's stores, and the rear iron doors of the latter were thrown open for a line of hose to be taken through the partition into Kerr's. Kerr occupied the floor space over Morgan's, and it was not long before this also was in flames. Owing to the iron window shutters being closed all around, the firemen were unable to reach the fire directly, until Chillingworth and Renear had battered away the cement fastenings on two window shutters, which were torn off, giving free play for the hosemen. A double ceiling over Morgan's store prevented the heavy cases of goods with which it was filled from falling through, but a stream of water came down and ruined all exposed articles. Two streams were kept on the upper floor from the rear, two into Kerr's main establishment from the rear, and two through the front entrance.

The front part of Kerr's was used for the display and sale of dry goods. This opened directly into the office, millinery and dressmaking sections, the gallery being used for the storage of millinery and dressmaking materials. The front upper story of Kerr's was used as a general storage and packing department. At an early stage of the fire, it seemed that the floor would give way, and guards were constantly on the watch to give the alarm in case this took place, as the firemen, working in smoke, would have been penned in.

The Inter-Island Company, next door to Kerr's, was not injured, the thick brick wall proving a fire-proof barrier.

The firm of L. B. Kerr & Company, Ltd., was organized some four years ago with a capital of \$200,000, subscribed principally by Mr. Kerr, a few others having small holdings, for the purpose of taking over the business of L. B. Kerr, and since that time it has branched out considerably. Recently the firm's statement showed that in the main store and branches there were stocks of \$210,000. It is estimated that the firm had a total stock of something like \$150,000 in the two buildings, one-third perhaps being in the warehouse.

It is estimated that the insurance on the stock will reach \$75,000. This is placed in local agencies. J. M. Dowsett's companies handle \$20,000 of the amount, and it is understood that the companies represented by W. G. Irwin & Co. have the same amount. Castle & Cooke's companies have about \$10,000 of insurance and Bishop & Co. represent similar losses. Small amounts are carried in other agencies.

James F. Morgan has insurance of \$1,000 on the floating stock which comes to his warehouses, and he estimated last night that he would lose that much more.

The building is one of the oldest coral structures in the city. It is the property of the estate of James Robinson and its value is estimated at some \$10,000, there being some insurance on it, the amount not being ascertained.